

CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: 7 (3)-001

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1700391.013

Medium: Computer Image File

Publisher: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: English

Applicant: Commissioner of Police

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years.
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Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 07 August 2017

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 07 August 2017

Summary of reasons for decision:

The cartoon image on the file consists of explicit sexual humour involving child characters from 'The Simpsons' television show. They are performing a juvenile prank involving somewhat degrading sexual acts. Despite the over-the-top absurdity of the image children and younger teenagers are unlikely to have the maturity or experience to deal with explicit sexual material and they are less likely to understand the image's humour. Even though presented in cartoon form, explicit sexual imagery is likely to have a negative effect on young viewers' development of sexual attitudes and behaviour. The classification of the image file interferes with the freedom of expression affirmed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, given the explicit sexual content of the image, a restriction limiting the availability of the image file to adults is reasonable, demonstrably justified and the minimum required to reduce the likelihood of injury to the public good.